



**Environmental
Protection Agency**

John R. Kasich, Governor
Mary Taylor, Lt. Governor
Scott J. Nally, Director

December 14, 2011

Mark Durno, Chief
Emergency Response Section 1
U.S. EPA Region V
25089 Center Ridge Road
Westlake, Ohio 44145

Re: Bushnell Court Drum Site, Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Durno:

Ohio EPA requests your assistance in conducting a potential emergency removal action at a hazardous waste abandoned drum dumpsite at Bushnell Court, Cleveland, Ohio. After receiving a complaint, Ohio EPA Investigators found a vacant area of land void of buildings or structures with approximately thirty-five 55 gallon drums abandoned. The drums are deteriorating and are leaking onto the ground. The drums contain old flammable paint, grease and oil.

The condition of the drums inhibited the Ohio EPA from obtaining more than one sample. Drums were corroded or by other means sealed shut. Due to the extreme deterioration of the drums, additional sampling would have required puncturing drums creating a potential failure of drum integrity and release of the contents into the environment. A few of the drums were field screened and at least four drums had high levels of volatile organic compounds.

Bushnell Court is located in a residential neighborhood and is not secured. The City of Cleveland is the current owner by default and does not have the financial resources or technical knowledge to manage this site. The City of Cleveland has agreed to give Ohio EPA and the USEPA access to the property for the necessary actions of removing the waste. Due to the hazards posed and unsecure nature of the site, Ohio EPA views this site as an immediate threat to the surrounding community and requests U.S. EPA's assistance. Jodi Billman-Kotsko, is Ohio EPA's contact for this site and can be reached at (614) 836-8761. As always, please feel free to call me at (614) 836-8752 with any questions.

Sincerely,



Kevin Clouse

Asst. Chief, Emergency Response & Special Investigations

Cc: Cindy Hafner, Chief, DERR
Jodi Billman-Kotsko, Orphan Drum Coordinator
Ron Fodo, NEDO
Scott Shane, OSI-GFO